

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method of transforming plants of the an Allium genus plant comprising the following steps:
- (a) delivering previously manipulated DNA into embryo cells, or embryo-derived culture cell types cells of the Allium genus plant via a vector or direct gene transfer to produce transformed plant material;
- (b) selecting the transformed plant material;
- (c) culturing and regenerating the transformed plants plant material;  
wherein the transformation is carried out without passage through a callus phase.
2. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to claim 1 wherein the Allium genus plant is transformed with a strain of Agrobacterium.
3. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to any one of claims 1-2 claim 1 or 2 in which the plants are onions Allium genus plant is onion.
4. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to any one of claims 1-3 claim 1 or 2 wherein the embryos are transformed with a binary vector.
5. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to any one of claims 1-4 claim 1 in which the embryos of an Allium species are inoculated immediately following their isolation with an Agrobacterium strain containing an active T-DNA immediately after isolation of the embryos.

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cont*

6. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to ~~any one of claims 1-5~~ claim 1 or 2 in which immature embryos are used.

7. **(Currently Amended)** A method of transforming an Allium genus plant using immature embryos as an explant source, including comprising:

- (a) isolating immature embryos of the Allium genus plant to be transformed;
- (b) inoculating ~~cultures~~ of the immature embryos with an *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* strain containing a binary vector and wounding the immature embryos in a culture medium;
- (c) ~~wounding embryos and infiltrating embryos with agrobacteria~~;
- (d) ~~(c)~~ transferring the embryos to a selective medium;
- (e) ~~(d)~~ culturing the embryos pieces;
- (f) ~~(e)~~ selecting putative transgenic cultures; and
- (g) ~~(f)~~ regenerating plants.

8. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to ~~any one of claims 1-7~~ claim 1 wherein the plant is transformed with an *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* strain containing a vector which carries a selectable gene DNA of interest.

9. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to claim 8 in which the selectable gene DNA of interest is a herbicide resistance gene.

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10. **(Original)** A method according to claim 9 in which the herbicide resistance gene is the *bar* gene or a glyphosate resistance gene.

*Ans*

11. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to claim 8 in which the selectable gene DNA of interest is an antibiotic resistance gene.

12. **(Original)** A method according to claim 11 in which the antibiotic resistance gene is the *nptII* gene.

13. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to ~~any one of claims 1-12~~  
~~wherein claim 1 in which the plant is transformed with a modified alliinase gene.~~

*Ans*

14. **(Currently Amended)** A transformed plant when produced by the method of ~~any one of claims 1-13~~ claim 1.

15. **(Currently Amended)** A transformed plant produced by the method of ~~any one of claims 1-9~~ claim 1 in which the resulting transformed plant contains a modified gene involved in sulphur pathway assimilation or breakdown ~~and as a result has altered levels of sulphur or carbohydrate compounds.~~

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